

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /009 W  
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R 301610Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9191

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGSP: AFSP

SUBJECT: REALIGNMENT OF RBFO

ABIDJAN FOR RBFO MACKEY

PARIS FOR AFF ROBINSON

REF: (A) STATE 185036 ( B) YAOUNDE 2360

1. IN REPLY PARA 3 REFTTEL, OUR PRESENT B&F STAFF CONSISTS OF ONE DUTCH NATIONAL MARRIED TO A CAMEROONIAN. SHE IS A NURSE BY PROFESSION AND HAS BEEN ON BOARD SINCE DEC 1, 1975. SHE HAS DONE A PASSABLE JOB UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, BUT CANNOT BE CONSIDERED EXPERIENCED IN EITHER ALLOTMENT ACCOUNTING OR VOUCHERING.

2. WE ARE TRYING TO RECRUIT POTENTIAL CANDIDATES FOR RB&FO - BOTH CAMEROONIANS AND TCNS, BUT OUR EFFORTS TO  
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DATE HAVE NOT BEEN PROMISING. THE CAMEROONIAN CANDIDATES

WE HAVE INTERVIEWED GENERALLY HAVE NO EXPERIENCE, NOR TRAINING IN BOOKKEEPING OR ACCOUNTING - AND THEIR EDUCATION IS LIMITED. WE ARE TRYING TO FIND POSSIBLE TCN CANDIDATES AMONG THE FOREIGN COMMUNITY, BUT AT THIS TIME OF THE YEAR MOST OF THEM ARE ON LEAVE IN THEIR HOME COUNTRIES AND WILL NOT RETURN TO YAOUNDE UNTIL LATE SEPTEMBER.

3. AS MENTIONED REF B TO ABIDJAN AND DEPARTMENT, WE HAVE LINED UP ONE CANDIDATE - MRS. DASKALAKIS, 56 YEARS OLD, WHO WORKED 18 MONTHS WITH THE RB&FO WHEN IT WAS OPERATING IN YAOUNDE. SHE STATES SHE WORKED ON TRAVEL VOUCHERS. OUR INITIAL IMPRESSION OF HER IS FAVORABLE AND WE RECOMMEND SHE BE EMPLOYED. OUR PRESENT B&F CLERK CAN BE TRANSFERRED TO RB&FO, BUT SHE WOULD NEED CLOSE SUPERVISION AND TRAINING UNDER AN EXPERIENCED B&F OFFICER BEFORE SHE WOULD BE ABLE TO ASSUME GREATER RESPONSIBILITIES. WHILE WE WOULD STRONGLY PREFER TO STAFF THE RB&FO WITH CAMEROONIANS, WE BELIEVE RB&FO WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO FULFILL ITS REGIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES WITHOUT SOME EXPERIENCED LOCAL EMPLOYEES ON THE STAFF AT THE INCEPTION OF THE RB&FO BUILDUP. UNFORTUNATELY, AS NOTED ABOVE, WE DO NOT HAVE A FOUNDATION TO BUILD ON AT THE MOMENT.

4. SINCE OUR RECRUITING EXPERIENCE TO DATE HAS NOT BEEN GOOD, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE WISE TO TRANSFER THE TWO EXPERIENCED NIGERIAN B&F EMPLOYEES FROM ABIDJAN WHO EXPRESSED A STRONG INTEREST IN WORKING IN YAOUNDE. THESE TWO COULD BE THE NUCLEUS FOR A FURTHER BUILD-UP OF RB&FO STAFF IN YAOUNDE. WE WILL CONTINUE WITH OUR RECRUITING EFFORTS AND HOPE TO HAVE A NUMBER OF CANDIDATES AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS WHEN MS. MACKEY ARRIVES IN YAOUNDE ON AUGUST 21.  
SPIRO

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**Subject:** REALIGNMENT OF RBFO  
**TAGS:** AFSP, P  
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